

THE "OLD COMP"

(By Orrin A. Foster.)

From the Raton Range, In these days of advancement in every art and every science, one is appalled at the wondrous strides of the art preservative of all arts, the printing trade and allied crafts. In printing, it is but a day or so ago, since the age of the Franklin hand press with its quaint and crude mechanism, familiar in picture to the eye of every school child. With what wondrous strides has the art advanced to the present day of mon-

strous web presses, reeling out a hundred thousand metropolitan papers every hour.

And the old days of hand typesetting—they have, in the past two decades passed into the beyonds. From the long line of "cases" at which the "journs" of other years held "sits," the daily newspaper offices and the book offices of the cities have been transformed to rows of Mergenthalers which under the skillful manipulation of deft fingers throb and burn with the living thought. The old artists of the "case"—"manipulators of the silent messengers of thought" have become useful members of the printing craft in other lines, and thousands of them have mastered the wonderful lino. But to all these, there at times come the old desire to "pull out" as in the days of old, when the composing rooms of the great dailies of the time resounded with the merry click, click of the little metal types swiftly assembled into the stirring editorial, the pungent paragraph or the startling news story of the generation just gone. Many an old timer has been seen to wend his way to the case in the corner in these later days and with his take before him, with eyes as bright as ever in the past, with rule polished and with his favorite stick lightly gripped, begin to "edge up" the stubborn bourgeois or the nimble nonpareil or minion. As the moments passed, what memories thronged through the atmosphere of the day linked with the dreams of the past? Invariably the Old Comp, after a few minutes of deliberate grasping of the letters begins the characteristic nervous, hurrying speed, which marked the race against time, night after night in the palmy days of "hand set" newspapers. A stickful or so, just to show that his fingers have not forgotten their cunning, and the Old Comp goes back to his other duties, with the dreams of the past fresh and rosy in his heart, with the kindlier smile to the "cub" who is just now learning to solve the modern mysteries of the most fascinating art of all arts, printing.

Mr. J. M. Keltner, foreman of the Range composing room, is one of the old-time printers who has kept abreast of the trade through all the advancement of the past generation. Mr. Keltner began learning his trade in the office of the Findlay, (Ohio) Jeffersonian, more than thirty years ago, and worked for many years upon this paper, which was established and made famous by Petroleum V. Nasby (D. R. Locke). Following the trend of all typographical artists of that day, Mr. Keltner traveled extensively, working in the largest newspaper offices in all the middle west. With the advent of the Mergenthaler machines he learned the art of operating, and is a competent linotypist. But still there are times when we old comps like to get back to a case and pull out a little, and on last Wednesday Mr. Keltner tried his hand on a bunch of Burgeois, manuscript copy, which by the way is about the slowest type for hand setting, the type foundry ever made. The matter was common newspaper measure, 13 ems wide. In the short space of one hour and forty-five minutes, he "set up" 2,750 ems of type, an average of speed of more than 1,600 ems per hour, which, considering the slowness of the type body and the manuscript copy, would have been regarded as an exceptional feat in the palmiest days of the hand-set newspapers.

In setting this amount of type in the time made in the spur of speed it was

necessary for Mr. Keltner to pick up separately from the case with one hand and place in the "stick" correctly, 6,900 individual pieces of type which went to make up the twenty inches of reading matter. His right hand, in accomplishing this feat traveled in an ever-varying circuit, a distance of from twenty to sixty inches for each letter, or a total of 20,700 feet. And there are lots of harder things in the making of a newspaper than setting type, too.

THE GRIST OF LIFE'S MILL

J. MARVIN NICHOLS.

Darkness brings out every star in the far-off skies.

When affection is dead quit hanging around its sepulchre.

Even a poor idiot can five pretty well—if he'll get out and hustle.

Speaking of joy: There may be things better than beef stew and baked potatoes and home-made bread—there may be—

There is no diamond quite so rare as a woman's loving eye—if it awakens you as from a dream; only, beware, for the market is crowded with imitations these days—says the philosopher.

The wife who deliberately and knowingly neglects to be the pleasing fascination "her man" craves need not be surprised if some one else plays the game with a winning card. Men are just part human—Sure!

The working man will get all that's coming to him when he is able to earn it, and not before. Valuable men are scarce. So scarce, and you'll get your price.

After all, there is nothing strange about great men; they are just like us—only bigger. They think just like we do, but more intensely; they suffer just like we do, only more keenly; they love just like we do, only more tenderly.

Accidental honors almost invariably turn out to be drawbacks in the end.

Normally, the simply life is the strong life.

The biggest puzzle in the realm of morals is the half truth.

The line between "fraud" and "good business" is a difficult one for some to trace.

It is hard for a barefoot man to get a clear idea of the golden slippers.

Let your troubles be weights—like wings are the additional weights on the eagle's body.

If some people would cling to the cross just like they cling to their opinions they would never lose their grip on the Lord.

It is quite possible for a clergyman to substitute lungs for logic and perspiration for inspiration.

H-E-L-P-M-E-E-T—helpmeet; one who helps get the meat. After all, is that a disgrace?

A great many people who make no effort to support a shack down here have no hesitancy in singing about their mansions in the skies.

What's your business? Do you get a fellow in a worse tangle; or, are your fingers deft in unravelling the tangled thread of life for some poor bewildered heart?

A Milwaukee paper apologizes for the error of a printer who placed the heading "Misery Loves Company" over the announcement of the marriage of an editor and a school teacher.

What you get out of life depends altogether on what you put into it. As the case may be, happiness and anguish are the declared dividends on our investments in life.

A good conscience sure keeps a fellow out of the game these days.

Duties will always be more important than rights.

He who stops just one heart from breaking has not lived in vain.

Wait on yourself—that'll fetch her. A spoilt child grows and he and the world rarely ever agree.

Carneigie declares that millionaires never laugh. Guess not! The thing has gotten so strenuous that there's no laugh coming.

"Gentleman"—a mightily overworked word in these days.

Every law looks blue to the man who wants to break it.

An active man builds success on a foundation of failure.

We cannot always see ourselves as others see us, but we can always see ourselves as we see others.

"Broken friendship," says a writer, "like china, may be repaired but the break will always show."

Some men move on lines of least resistance. And there's the jelly-fish—he floats with the tide.

To lose you were to lose myself—that's the last analysis of a real friend.

Marriage is a partnership in which each party is in honor bound to think of the rights of others.

A strong man never ignores a weak one. That's the highest evidence of strength.

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Mining Conditions Are

Good in Colfax County.

The Mining Reporter, published at Denver, in a recent issue has the following to say concerning mining conditions in Colfax county.

Work has been resumed at the Legal Tender mine in Willow Gulch; the immediate work consists of gaining additional depth with the shaft and the running of several laterals.

At the Bobtail-Senate property in the Elizabethtown section, drifting is in progress at the bottom of the main working shaft to recover a large vein which shows good values at the surface. It is expected that the mill will be put in commission shortly.

The Maxwell Land Grant company is prospecting with a core drill for iron on Iron mountain.

Good progress is being made in the continuation of the Baldy tunnel, which is now in over 2,300 feet.

It is stated that the Golden Ajax company is shortly to resume development operations at its properties.

Advertisements in the News and Press.

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St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific Railway Co.

Passenger



Schedule

In Effect September 1, 1907.

Wells Fargo Express.

Train No. 1	Train No. 2	STATIONS.	Train No. 3	Train No. 4
Mon. Wed. Friday	Mon. Wed. Friday		Mon. Wed. Friday	Mon. Wed. Friday
7:00 am	4:00 pm	Leave Raton	12:15 pm	6:35 pm
7:25 am	4:25 pm	Leave CLIFTON HOUSE	11:57 am	6:05 pm
7:50 am	4:50 pm	Leave PRESTON	11:40 am	5:45 pm
8:20 am	5:20 pm	Leave KOEHLER JCT.	11:00 am	5:20 pm
8:50 am	5:50 pm	Arr. KOEHLER	10:25 am	4:45 pm
9:10 am	6:10 pm	Arr. VERMILION	10:15 am	4:35 pm
9:35 am	6:35 pm	Arr. CERRITOSO	9:55 am	4:15 pm
10:00 am	6:50 pm	Arr. CIMARRON	9:35 am	3:55 pm
11:30 am	8:20 pm	Arr. UTE PARK	9:15 am	3:35 pm
12:30 pm	9:20 pm	Arr. Raton	8:55 am	3:15 pm

Auto Car service is maintained between Cimarron and Ute Park daily except Sunday.

Train No. 1	Train No. 2	STATIONS.	Train No. 3	Train No. 4
Tues. Thurs. Saturday	Tues. Thurs. Saturday		Tues. Thurs. Saturday	Tues. Thurs. Saturday
11:00 am	4:00 pm	Leave DES MOINES, N. M.	10:00 am	6:35 pm
11:40 am	4:40 pm	Leave CAPULIN VEGAS	9:25 am	6:05 pm
12:25 pm	5:25 pm	Leave VIOLET	8:45 am	5:45 pm
1:15 pm	6:15 pm	Leave THOMPSON	8:20 am	5:20 pm
1:40 pm	6:40 pm	Leave CUNNINGHAM	8:05 am	5:05 pm
1:50 pm	6:50 pm	Arr. CLIFTON HOUSE JUNCTION	7:30 am	4:35 pm
2:00 pm	7:00 pm	Arr. Raton	7:20 am	4:15 pm
2:30 pm	7:30 pm	Arr. Raton	7:00 am	3:55 pm

Connects with El Paso & Southwestern Ry. train 124, arriving in Dawson, N.M., at 4:15 p.m.
Connects with El Paso & Southwestern Ry. train No. 123, leaving Dawson, N.M., at 10:15 a.m.
Stage for Van Houten, N.M., meets train at Preston, N.M.
Connects with stage to and from Toca and Elizabethtown, N.M.
Track connection with A. T. & S. Ry. at Raton and Preston, with C. & S. Ry. at Dos Molinos, and E. P. & S. W. Ry. at Vermilion, N.M.
Cimarron, N.M., is depot for following stations in New Mexico: Coate, Pencil Park, Rayado and Red Lake.
The Park is depot for following stations in New Mexico: Arroyo Seco, Aurora, Baldy, Black Lake, Cerro, Elizabethtown, Lobo, Quanta, Rancho de Taos, Red River City, Taipa, Taos, Twinning and Valdes.
J. VAN HOUTEN, Vice President and General Manager, Raton, New Mexico.
W. A. GORMAN, General Passenger Agent, Raton, New Mexico.